



## **RULING IN HADIX MOVES DEPARTMENT ONE STEP CLOSER, BUT SLIGHTLY DELAYS FINAL CLOSURE OF JMF**

As you are aware, the Department announced its plans to close the Southern Michigan Correctional Facility earlier this year. The closure was targeted for July 15, 2007. We have been progressing toward closure and have been keeping you updated as to our progress through the FYI. Most of you are aware of the litigation concerning the facility and the resulting hurdles the Department has had to go through to be able to close JMF.

Today, the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an order that puts us one step closer in our plans to close the Southern Michigan Correctional Facility. While our original closure date of July 15, 2007 will not be met, the order allows us to make continued progress toward total closure.

- \* The court has ruled that certain prisoners can be immediately moved.
- \* The court directed the lower court to reconsider our transfer plan with respect to the special needs prisoners, and specifically address certain highlighted issues.
- \* The court ordered oral arguments in its September session on the remaining issues in this litigation which include: reopening of mental health; air conditioning; termination of health care; jurisdiction over Hadix class members transferred to A and B Units.

I recently visited JMF and was overwhelmed by the positive energy and attitude displayed by the staff there. I know the uncertainty that faces all staff affected by this closure is very difficult to deal with. It is clear you are handling it with grace and professionalism. I thank you for your continued dedication and support.

**Patricia L. Caruso**

Director, Michigan Department of Corrections